

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

IO-10 SAM-01 SAJ-01 /075 W  
----- 022070

R 031219Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 866

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 1285

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR XC DA

SUBJ: PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE ON SOUTHEAST ASIA

REF: A. COPENHAGEN 1185; B. COPENHAGEN 1245;  
C. COPENHAGEN 1264

SUMMARY: THE MAY 2 DEBATE IN PARLIAMENT REGARDING THE  
FOREIGN MINISTER'S APRIL 24 STATEMENT ON SOUTHEAST  
ASIA WAS UNDRAMATIC. THE GOVERNMENT PURSUED A  
MODERATE LINE TO APPEASE OPPOSITION PARTIES CRITICAL  
OF THE PUBLIC REMARKS ON APRIL 30 BY PRIME MINISTER  
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ANKER JORGENSEN CONCERNING VIETNAM (REFS B AND C). DEBATE

FOLLOWED PARTY LINES FROM THE JUBILANCE OF THE EXTREME LEFT OVER THE PRG VICTORY TO THE GLOOM OF THE RIGHT OVER PROSPECTS OF COMMUNIST DOMINANCE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. END SUMMARY.

1. DANISH PARLIAMENT (FOLKETING) MAY 2 HAD A THREE-HOUR FLOOR DEBATE ON SOUTHEAST ASIA ON THE BASIS OF THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S APRIL 24 REPORT (REFTEL A) AND A PUBLIC STATEMENT BY PRIME MINISTER JORGENSEN WELCOMING PEACE IN VIETNAM AND CRITICIZING THE US ROLE (REFS B AND C). THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S REPORT WAS GENERALLY ACCEPTED BY THE OPPOSITION PARTIES AS MODERATE AND CONCILIATORY. THE PRIME MINISTER, HOWEVER, WAS CHALLENGED ON THE ISSUE OF WHETHER HIS APRIL 30 STATEMENT WAS SUPPORTED BY A FOLKETING MAJORITY. JORGENSEN'S RESPONSE WAS CAREFULLY WORDED. HE MAINTAINED HIS RIGHT, NOW AS BEFORE, TO BE CRITICAL OF CERTAIN FEATURES OF US FOREIGN POLICY WITHOUT THIS NECESSARILY IMPLYING A REJECTION OF US FOREIGN POLICY IN GENERAL. HE PARTICULARLY EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THE MAIN ELEMENTS OF US FOREIGN POLICY, SUCH AS THE DETENTE POLICY TOWARDS THE USSR AND CHINA, (TEXT FORWARDED COPENHAGEN 1283). JORGENSEN'S STATEMENT WAS VERY BRIEF AND, WHILE HE ATTENDED THE ENTIRE DEBATE, HE DID NOT LET HIMSELF BE CALLED BACK TO THE ROSTRUM.

2. THE DEBATE WAS ILL-ATTENDED AND WITH FEW EXCEPTIONS LIMITED TO EXCHANGES BETWEEN APPOINTED SPOKESMEN FOR THE VARIOUS POLITICAL PARTIES.

3. FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER OVE GULDBERG, SPEAKING FOR THE LIBERAL PARTY, PRESSED HOME SEVERAL POINTS CHARACTERISTIC OF THOSE RAISED BY THE OTHER NON-SOCIALIST PARTY SPOKESMEN. HE ACCEPTED THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S STATEMENT AS AN OBVIOUSLY CONCILIATORY ONE BUT ADDED THAT THE GOVERNMENT MUST ACCEPT BEING JUDGED ALSO ON ITS EXTRAMURAL, PUBLIC STATEMENTS, REFERRING TO PRIME MINISTER JORGENSEN'S STATEMENT CRITICIZING THE US ROLE. GULDBERG STATED THAT IT WAS UNDENIABLE THAT HANOI HAD CONQUERED AND OCCUPIED SOUTH VIETNAM BY MILITARY FORCE AND THAT IT WAS AS YET UNKNOWN TO WHAT THIS WOULD LEAD. HE FOUND IT PREMATURE TO DETERMINE, THEREFORE, DANISH AID

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POLICY UNTIL IT BECAME CLEAR WHETHER A UNITED VIETNAM TURNED OUT TO BE A CLOSED COMMUNIST STATE OR, HOPEFULLY, A MORE OPEN STATE WITH WHICH THE WEST COULD COOPERATE.

4. CONSERVATIVE SPOKESMAN ERIK NINN-HANSEN POINTED OUT THAT THE PUBLIC STATEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER WAS NOT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ESTABLISHED FOREIGN POLICY ADOPTED BY A MAJORITY OF THE FOLKETING. HE POSED THE QUESTION

WHETHER THE PRIME MINISTER INTENDED TO ADHERE TO THAT  
COMMONLY AGREED POLICY OR, ALTERNATIVELY, WHETHER THE  
FOLKETING WOULD ACCEPT HAVING A PRIME MINISTER WHO, ON  
FOREIGN POLICY, WAS CLEARLY OUT OF STEP WITH THE MAJORITY.  
REFERRING TO THE PRIME MINISTER'S CRITICISM OF THE US,  
NINN-HANSEN SAID THAT DENMARK HAD SHOWN A MINIMUM OF  
SOLIDARITY WITH THE NATION WHICH MORE THAN ANY OTHER  
HELPS SECURE DENMARK'S INDEPENDENCE.

5. NO MOTION OF CENSURE WAS INTRODUCED.  
CROWE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SPEECHES, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, POLITICAL SITUATION, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 03 MAY 1975  
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**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, XC, DA, (ANDERSEN, KNUD BORGE)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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